

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Sunday 06 Dec 2020 until 23:59 on Monday 07 Dec 2020

Forecast Issued on Saturday 05 Dec 2020 at 12:40

Confidence: High for mainly dry and cold conditions during Sunday and Monday. Some uncertainty in the timings of rain or snow arriving Monday evening. High for an unsettled day with rain or snow and low cloud Tuesday.

Headline for Sunday 06 Dec 2020: Early wintry showers clearing then mainly dry. Cold.

Mountain weather hazards on Sunday 06 Dec 2020

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy Snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
							
Cloudy	Light snow	Light snow	Fog	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Mist
Precipitation probability							
20%	60%	60%	50%	30%	00%	00%	00%

Forecast for Sunday 06 Dec 2020

Weather: Sleet or snow showers at first, with rain below about 500m, these will die out through the morning. Eastern fells and some central fells then staying mainly cloudy but bright or clear spells will develop in over more western fells.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Around 40% with occasional or periods of cloud above about 600 or 700m over central and eastern fells. Becoming 80% over southern and western fells through the day with mainly patchy low cloud.

Visibility: Occasional low cloud, mainly in the east. Visibility falling to a few kilometres in snow and snow showers at first but becoming generally very good through the morning.

Forecast for Sunday 06 Dec 2020

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	18/22 NE	21/26 N	19/24 NE	18/23 NE	14/17 NE	12/14 NE	9/12 NE	8/11 E	7/10 E
600	11/16 N	13/20 N	13/20 N	11/16 N	9/13 NE	7/10 NE	7/10 NE	5/8 E	6/9 E
300	4/12 N	5/15 N	5/15 N	5/14 N	4/12 N	4/9 N	4/8 NE	3/8 NE	4/7 NE
Valley	6/13 N	8/18 N	8/18 N	7/16 N	7/13 NE	6/11 NE	5/9 NE	6/9 NE	5/8 NE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-1/-7	-1/-8	-2/-8	-1/-8	-1/-6	-1/-6	-1/-6	-2/-6	-2/-6
600	0/-4	0/-5	-0/-5	0/-4	1/-3	1/-3	-0/-3	-0/-3	-1/-4
300	1/-1	1/-1	2/-1	2/-0	3/1	2/1	1/-1	0/-2	0/-2
Valley	4/1	4/1	4/1	5/2	6/4	5/3	4/2	4/1	3/0
Freezing Level*	800m	800m	900m	900m	800m	800m	800m	700m	700m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Meteorologist's View

After early showers clear, it will be a generally dry day but wintry conditions continuing at height with a significant wind chill in exposure.

Forecast for Monday 07 Dec 2020

Weather: A widespread frost overnight with freezing fog patches, these slow to clear in some valleys. A dry, settled and cold day with bright spells. Conditions likely to deteriorate in evening with sleet or snow arriving from the east, but mainly rain below 600m.

Maximum wind: North or Northeast 10-15mph, increasing 20-25mph in the evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 90% for most of the day, a few patches of low cloud. Becoming 30% through the evening with cloud becoming extensive above 500 or 600m.

Visibility: Patchy fog in some valleys and on the hill sides, slowly lifting. Otherwise generally excellent visibility during daylight hours. Some navigational difficulties after dark as cloud descends.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 1 or 2C rising to 4 or 5C.
At 800m: 0C or Minus 1C.
Freezing level: 700-800m. Early valley frost.

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Saturday 5 December. Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:10. Temperature: minus 1.2C, Maximum wind speed 10.6mph, Wind chill: minus 7.2C, Average wind speed: 9.7mph. Full report: A fine day in the Lakes with light NW winds. The freezing level today was around 500-600m, below which the ground is relatively snow-free. Above this, the fresh snow that fell yesterday has started to consolidate into granular sugary snow (the result of a rise in temperature and rain yesterday evening) and is still knee-deep in many places. The paths at mid-altitude are also very icy where the snow has been compressed and refrozen. The summit plateau is relatively well scoured but still presents a mosaic of large areas of snow and frozen ground. Many north and east-facing scarp slopes have also been scoured and as a result, there are no significant cornices around corrie rims although wind slab is present in these locations as well as on ridge flanks. Swirral and Striding edge are both in full winter condition but have a fairly lean cover of snow along their crests which makes travel along these routes difficult. Anyone venturing out tomorrow should anticipate challenging conditions with reduced visibility and severe wind chill. Good navigation skills will be required for safe travel in the high fells. Warm and waterproof winter clothing including hat and gloves, and equipment including mountaineering boots, ice axe, crampons, map, compass and goggles, and a headtorch are essential. For the climbers: Due to the NE winds we've experienced in the last few days, many of the scarp slopes which several routes finish up have very little snow cover and turf is not properly frozen. Please avoid climbing in these locations to avoid damaging the rare arctic/alpine plant species that grow in these locations.

Issued at: 1240 on Sat 05 Dec 2020